

**REMARKS**

Examination of the present continuation application filed under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) is respectfully requested.

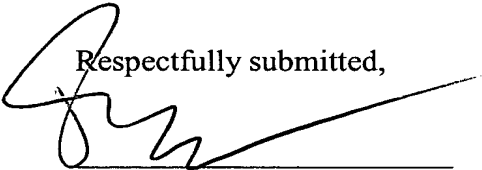
The present application is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 10/084,657 (the "parent application"), filed on February 28, 2002. In the present preliminary amendment, Applicant has amended the specification to cross-reference the parent application.

The Examiner should note that the present application includes original claims 6-11 and 15-20 and new claims 21-24. Claims 6-11 and 15-20 correspond to the non-elected Group II claims that were withdrawn from consideration and later cancelled in response to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement of September 30, 2003 in the parent application. New claims 21-24 are added to provide additional coverage. Claims 1-5 and 12-14 correspond to Group I claims elected in the parent application, therefore, claims 1-5 and 12-14 are cancelled herein.

In view of the above remarks, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. A prompt notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Although no additional fees are believed to be due, permission is hereby given to charge any unforeseen fees to deposit account 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Robert L. Scott, II  
Reg. No. 43,102

RLS/moa  
Posz & Bethards, PLC  
11250 Roger Bacon Drive, Suite 10  
Reston, VA 20190  
(703)707-9110 (phone)  
Customer No. 23400